

Town of Shrewsbury - Board of Selectmen
Richard D. Carney Municipal Office Building – Selectmen’s Meeting Room
100 Maple Avenue
Monday, March 08, 2004 at 7:00 PM

Minutes

Present:

Bruce Card, Maurice DePalo, Thomas Fiore, Philip Hammond, John Lebeaux and Daniel Morgado, Town Manager. Mr. Fiore, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

Preliminaries:

1. Approve bills, payrolls and warrants #0471 in the amount of \$274,607.95 and #0472 in the amount of \$664,615.68. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted to approve.
2. Approve Minutes of February 24, 2003 and February 26, 2004. Motion made, seconded and unanimously approved.
3. Announcements – Mr. Lebeaux advised that the SHS Alumni Assoc. Auction Dinner will take place on April 10 at 6:00pm in the SHS Commons. Immediately following the dinner there will be an auction of donated items to benefit the Alumni Assoc. Student Grants Program. Tickets are \$15.00 if purchased before March 10th and \$20 after that date. Further information is available on the Alumni Assoc. web site.
4. Town Manager’s Report - Nothing other than what is on the Agenda.

Hearings:

5. 7:05pm – Psychic Visions – Show Cause Hearing. Mr. Fiore reopened the hearing. He advised that a letter had been received today from the attorney representing Mr. John advising that Paul John d/b/a Psychic Visions has surrendered the leased space at 431 Boston Turnpike and terminated the Psychic Visions business in Shrewsbury. The business simply did not generate sufficient income to justify continued operations. We may deem Mr. John’s Fortune Telling license issued by the Town of Shrewsbury to be surrendered. The attorney went on to add that the letter not Mr. John’s act of ceasing business operations in Shrewsbury is or may be construed as an admission to the allegations raised in the Board of Selectmen’s show cause notice or the accompanying incident report. Mr. John does not hereby waive any claim, cause of action, or defense. Mr. Fiore suggested no further action be taken due to the fact that when a business changes address, a license becomes invalid. The board tabled the matter.

Old Business:

6. Community Development Plan. This plan had been an agenda item at the Board’s last meeting. Mr. Morgado asked if Board members had any questions after reviewing the document. Also, Judi Barrett will be available at the next meeting to more fully explain the plan. Board members advised that any questions could wait to be addressed by Ms. Barrett on March 22nd.
7. Robert Oliver request. This item had been rescheduled from the previous meeting and forwarded to Chief Sampson. The Chief recommended that no action be taken at this time due to the demographics of the road. This is the second request for signage in this area. The first resulted in signs indicating children in the area.
8. Sign Amendment to Traffic Rules & Orders. The Board previously voted on this amendment to turning at the Quinsigamond Avenue/Route 9 intersection.

New Business:

9. Budget Discussion. Mr. Morgado reviewed the budget situation outlining the first two levels for cutting expenditures to meet revenues and he advised the Board that he would have level three available by the end of the week. At present the proposed cuts would bring the budget to \$79.4 million. Down from the original proposed budget of \$81.9 million but it is still \$1.25 million more than revenue. A 25% increase of \$200,000 in health and life insurance has impacted the cuts already made. He cautioned that although the Town will get a \$1.6 million increase in state aid in Gov. Romney’s proposed budget, that figure is subject to change by the Legislature. Town departments have eliminated new positions from their budgets as well as seasonal positions.

Many levels of Town services will be affected including the added services necessary due to the Town's growth. The Board met with the School Committee and Finance Committee several weeks ago and will meet again on March 15th to discuss the next steps to take in reducing expenditures. The School Committee has cut \$1.6 million from their original budget request to date. Prior to next week's meeting the Selectmen's budget subcommittee, Mr. DePalo and Mr. Lebeaux will meet with school officials to discuss further cuts. The need for a Proposition 2 ½ override has not yet been decided. Selectmen agreed that further cuts would severely damage Town services.

10. One Day Wine & Malt Beverage License for Shrewsbury Rotary Club 3rd Annual Spring Wine Tasting, Central One Federal Credit Union, 714 Main Street, Thursday, April 1, 2004 from 6:30pm to 9:30pm. Motion was made seconded and voted four in favor with Mr. Fiore abstaining.
11. Reappoint Treasurer/Collector. Motion was made to reappoint Treasurer/Collector Carolyn J. Marcotte to a three year term expiring on March 1, 2007. Motion was seconded and unanimously voted.
12. Review draft of Special Town Meeting Warrant. Mr. Morgado reviewed the draft. Several articles deal with by-law changes. Several articles have been proposed by Chief Sampson and also involve by-laws changes. Article 19 deals with appointment of the Town Clerk. Mr. Morgado explained the zoning article relative to the Lakeway Overlay District. This change would allow businesses on Route 9 in the area from Lake Quinsigamond to Oak Street to have housing units on their second and third floors or in a separate building on their property if they have the proper space. This would increase tax revenue as well as affordable housing and would give property owners in the area additional options should they desire to pursue them.

Mr. Fiore advised the Board that Animal Control Officer Pease has requested a dog hearing. Hearing is scheduled for April 5, 2004 at 7:30pm. Appropriate parties will be notified.

Executive Session:

13. Collective bargaining, pending litigation and value of real property. Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to adjourn into executive session at 8:25pm and not to reconvene for the purpose of discussion of collective bargaining, pending litigation and value of real property. The Board was polled, Mr. Card, yes, Mr. Hammond, yes, Mr. DePalo, yes, Mr. Lebeaux, yes, and Mr. Fiore, yes.

Communications:

14. Noted copy mailed: Memo from Mr. Morgado re Talent Bank application from David Gerber
15. Noted copy mailed: MMA Legislative Bulletin Vol. 11:1, 2/20/04.
16. Noted copy mailed: COA Board Meeting Minutes, 1/14/04.
17. Noted copy mailed: Mass. Dept. of Revenue Bulletin 204-04B, re FY05 Budget Issues.
18. Noted copy mailed: DHCD notification re Chapter 40B Comprehensive Permit – AvalonBay Communities, Inc. (complete application on file in BOS office). Notification that application had been received.
19. Noted copy mailed: *Teaching at Risk: A Call to Action* from The Teaching Commission (on file in BOS office).
20. Noted copy mailed: ZBA Hearing Minutes, 2/10/04, Steven Gordon, 5 Pleasant View Street.
21. Noted copy mailed: ZBA Hearing Minutes, 2/10/04, Roger Nolli, 354-356 Boston Tpke.
22. Noted copy mailed: ZBA Hearing Minutes, 2/10/04, Gerard & Denise Zuffante, 84 Edgemere Blvd.
23. Noted copy mailed: E-mails from Erin Canzano, Jill Reynolds, Amy Kotsopoulos, Amy Oddo, Kathy Taylor; Maggie & Ron Geromini, Mindy McKenzie-Hebert, Denise Johnson, Sheila Coomey- re Prop 2 1/2 override.
24. Noted copy mailed: Memo from Mr. Morgado re Proposition 2 ½ Ballot Questions.
25. Noted copy mailed: DEP-EPA Reply 2/25/04 revised.
26. Noted copy mailed: Zoning Change – Lakeway Overlay District.
27. Noted copy mailed: Letter from Joseph Armenti, Jr. resigning as constable.
28. Noted copy mailed: Memo from MBTA Advisory Board re Meeting Materials & Agenda.
29. Noted copy mailed: School Committee Meeting Agenda, 3/3/04.
30. Noted copy mailed: Letter from Patrick Motors requesting amendment to service department hours. Will be notified that a hearing will be necessary for increase in service hours.
31. Noted copy mailed: E-mail from Paul Mandella re Operational Override and Mr. DePalo's response.
32. Noted copy mailed: Planning Board Meeting Minutes, 1/8/04 & 2/5/04.

33. Noted copy mailed: Planning Board Meeting Minutes, 1/9/03, 2/6/03, 2/27/03, 3/6/03, 4/10/03, 5/1/03, 6/12/03, 7/10/03, 8/7/03, 9/4/03, 10/2/03, 11/6/03 & 12/4/03.
34. Noted copy mailed: Proposed School Building Assistance Program Reforms from Lt. Gov. Kerry Healey. Will draft response to the Lt. Governor and review at next meeting.
35. Noted copy mailed: National Grid five year 2004-2008 Right of Way Vegetation Management Plan. (complete plan on file in BOS office)
36. Noted copy mailed: ARC update, February 2004.
37. Noted copy mailed: ZBA Hearing Agenda, 3/23/04.
38. Noted copy mailed: Letter of interest in reappointment to the Registrar of Voters from Brenda Ljunggren. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted to reappoint Brenda Ljunggren for a three year term to expire on March 31, 2007.
39. Noted copy mailed: Letter of interest in reappointment as to the Zoning Board of Appeals from Paul George. Table ZBA appointments until March 22nd meeting. Those interested in serving should send letters to the Board's office.
40. Noted copy mailed: Letter of interest in reappointment to the Human Services Advisory Committee from Nancy Allen. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted to reappoint Nancy Allen for a three year term to expire on January 31, 2007.
41. Noted copy mailed: Park & Cemetery Commission Meeting Minutes, 12/9/03 & 1/12/04.
42. Noted copy mailed: Shrewsbury & Westborough Boards of Selectmen & Westborough Treatment Board Mtg. Minutes, 3/4/04.
43. Noted copy mailed: Central Mass. Mosquito Control Project Annual Report 2003 (on file in BOS office)
44. Noted copy mailed: Memo from T.R. Josie re Rate Adjustment Process-Premium Channels. Board will leave decision to the Light Commission. Mr. Josie will be notified.

Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously voted to adjourn into executive session at 8:25 pm not to reconvene for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining, pending litigation and value of real property.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice C. McCoy
Secretary